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"Gould's place. . . On your left, 'William Rockefeller's. . . Up there, Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, with 'the grave of Washington Irving. . . It would be very interesting for the sightseers and profitable for the trolley owners, no doubt. But it would seem rather queer either first to induce people to make line places on the strength of a promise that there should never be any trolley line there and then to build the trolley line and seek to make money out of the exhibition of the places which they had built on the strength of that broken pledge."

THE BOARD OF ESTIMATES PROTESTS.

The Board of Estimate and Apportionment has done well in recording its protest against the Stillwell bill depriving it of authority over the choice of a site for a courthouse and the erection of a building. That measure, as the board in its resolution says, is in direct violation of home rule principles. A "ripper" bill pure and simple, it is designed to remove obstacles from the way of the plan to build a big courthouse in the park, which would dwarf the City Hall, give to buildings in the vicinity on which the public has already spent many millions of dollars a huddled appearance and prevent the development of a civic center about the City Hall which would be worthy of New York and which should be an aim always to be kept in mind. The project has been beaten once before by an aroused public opinion, in defiance of which the Stillwell bill was introduced in the Legislature and passed by the Senate. We hope it is a libel on the Justices of the Supreme Court in this department to say that the bill was promoted by them. We should be sorry to think that they could show so little regard for the spirit of our institutions and for the principle of local home rule. Now that the Board of Estimate and Apportionment has uttered its protest, perhaps the Assembly and the Governor, who are pledged to observe home rule for cities, will show their regard for this principle by their opposition to this "ripper" bill. Public opinion is against it. The government of the city, through the Board of Estimate and Apportionment—Mayor Gaynor not voting because the bill may come before him for action—is unanimous against it. In the face of this overwhelming local sentiment the Legislature passes the bill there is fortunately reason to hope that Mayor Gaynor will interpose his disapproval and the attempt to invade City Hall Park over the heads of the local authorities will be defeated.

AS TO THE COURT OF CLAIMS.

"The Rochester Post-Express" publishes a letter from Justice Peter B. McLean, presiding Justice of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court in the Fourth Department, to Attorney General Carmody and part of the latter's reply to it, both of which should receive the attention of the Legislature when it comes to pass upon the bill legislating the Court of Claims out of office. This bill, it is understood, Governor Dix favors on the ground of "economy." But it is merely a patronage grab, the only economy offered being a trivial reduction in the pay of the judges and of the court attendants. Justice McLean calls it a "great" Court of Claims, and says "no court is doing better or more satisfactory work in the interests of the state or of the citizens than that court." It is doing it. It is comparatively rarely, he writes, that an appeal from the court has been taken to the court over which he presides, which is the only court to which such appeals can be taken. This fact, that Justice McLean's court hears all the appeals from Court of Claims decisions, makes what he has to say regarding the worth of the present court especially weighty. He writes:

"The Court of Claims as now organized is conducting the business of that court at the least possible expense. It is rendering decisions in matters involving millions of dollars which are satisfactory to the litigants and the state. The fact is, as said before, that an appeal is taken from a decision of such a court. Then why change it—a court that is doing such great and good work? It has become possible that such a court should be used and overturned because of the political exigency—that possibly political advantage may be attained by appointing some other judges to hold such court?"

THE POST ROAD GRAB.

The Assembly has done an unjustifiable thing in passing the bill for the speculation of New York's finest suburban parkway. It is a bill for the construction of a trolley line along the Albany Post Road, through Dobbs Ferry, Irvington and Tarrytown. That would inevitably mean such occupancy of the parkway roadway by car tracks as to make other traffic inconvenient and unsafe, and it would, of course, mean the destruction of at least the gross portion of the fine trees which now form one of the chief charms of that road. It would be unpardonable vandalism to do this unless there were some over-riding public demand for it, as serving an indispensable purpose which could be served in no other way. But these conditions do not exist, but, rather, conditions quite the reverse.

THE HONDURAN PROPOSALS.

It is much to be regretted that there should be serious opposition to the treaty with Honduras, which is intended to promote the fiscal rehabilitation of that country and to secure it against embarrassing demands by other powers. These are objects which are in the highest degree commendable and which should not be defeated save under the most inexcusable compulsion, such as does not at all appear in the present case.

THE TROTTER SEASON IS OPEN.

A flash of watered string. A whirl of cloven air. The fisher's heart beats fast. But still his nerve is stout. He feels, then reels—here's joy at last. A trout! The youngster with a pail. The growler with a hook. Each year to wander in. Some calm, requested brook. Come, let the world of care Go hang! Let slide 'ambush! Take pail and rod and line, and dare The bait! She—Every man has his price. He—Yes, and every woman her figure. Judge.

greater now, without a treaty, than it would be with one. For, of course, the treaty would strongly operate against the occurrence of any trouble in which we might be involved, and in case of its occurrence it would define the precise extent of our participation, while now there is no such restraint against trouble, and if it should occur this country might be called upon to intervene in it to an unlimited extent. The course of prudence toward ourselves, as well as of benevolence to our neighbors, prescribes the adoption of a specific course of action, such as is provided for in the pending treaty.

A STARTLING INNOVATION.

By dint of perseverance Mr. Bailey has brought about a change in the daily routine of the United States Senate which any innovator less rash would long ago have despaired of accomplishing. The deliberative branch of Congress is wedded to its traditions. So far as its own customs and habits are concerned it has been a willing slave to precedent and its rules have been supposed to be as immutable as the laws of the Medes and Persians. It has been reluctant to recognize that new conditions justify new methods. Mr. Bailey therefore had virtually to fight against the stars in their courses when he ventured to advocate a change in the Senate's meeting hour from noon to 2 p. m. Had the Senate met at noon from time immemorial? Why should it alter a custom of more than a century's antiquity because of a mere plea that a later meeting hour would better serve the convenience of some or even most of its members?

When the Texas Senator first suggested his innovation he was accused of wanting to introduce at Washington the customs and manners of Westminster. The British Parliament sits at night, whereas to the Washington mind night sessions are an imposition and a nuisance. Mr. Bailey was not to be sneered down, however, as a mere copier of London fashions. He maintained that his scheme for later sessions did not necessarily involve a recess until after dinner. It was simply intended to force a more economical use of the time between noon and 6 p. m. by enlarging the period allotted to committee meetings and shortening the time spent in debate on the floor of the Senate. He said truly that the committees, meeting at 10 a. m. or 11 a. m., did not have an opportunity to do their work properly, for the day's work in Washington begins late and it is hard to get Senators to report at the Capitol before noon. Why not have the committees meet between noon and 2 p. m., he asked, and extend the sittings of the Senate regularly to 5:30 or 6 o'clock?

PRIZE MUSIC.

It has frequently been questioned whether or not any considerable good is accomplished for art by competitions for prizes. In music and literature even the giving of commissions has been frowned on, the critical notion being that what is called inspiration cannot be stimulated by the hope of pecuniary reward, but must come to the artist spontaneously and create an unrepeatable need of utterance. There is much more to be said in this view in the history of music than in that of any of the plastic arts. Very few musical works composed within the last century which continue to hold a place in the world's admiration were written to order; still fewer were the product of prize competitions. Mascagni's hot-blooded little opera, "Cavalleria Rusticana," would seem to be an exception to the rule; but it is an open secret that it existed before the Italian publisher, Sonzogno, thought of offering the prize which was the first reward of its then young and unknown composer. Notwithstanding all the teachings of history, however, efforts are continually making, the world over, to foster nationalism in music by the establishment of competitions and the offering of prizes. The most interesting example of recent times was that of the directors of the Metropolitan Opera Company, who two years ago invited composers of American birth to compete for a prize of \$10,000 to be awarded for the best opera. The award to Professor Horatio Parker, of Yale University, and his literary associate, Mr. Brian Hooker, has been received with general satisfaction, and there are circumstances which indicate that in this case a contribution of dignity and value may have been made to American music. The character of the judges who made the award gives large assurance of such a result; the past achievements of the authors give more, and there is corroboratory evidence in what has been learned touching the work itself.

Should the expectations which have been aroused by the action of the jurors be realized, it would show that there was virtue in the proposition made by Mr. Gatti-Casazza, which at the time seemed to have been designed only to meet Mr. Hammerstein's move in commissioning Mr. Herbert to write an English opera for the Manhattan Opera House. The directors of the Metropolitan Opera House and their Boston colleagues proceeded on different lines when they produced two operas by Mr. Converse and accepted Mr. Arthur Nevin's "Twilight" for immediate performance. In these cases the outcome was not altogether satisfactory. Had "The Pipe of Desire," "The Sacrifice," "Natoma" and "Twilight" undergone the scrutiny of trained musicians like Messrs. Chadwick, Loefler, Damosch and Hertz, the public would have been spared the ineffectualities of Mr. Herbert's opera, which Mr. Dippel produced after Mr. Gatti-Casazza had rejected it, and Mr. Nevin would not have been subjected to the humiliation of being compelled

to withdraw his opera because of crudities which made its performance at the time set impossible. Here, then, competition would have been better than commission.

A SCATTERED FAMILY.

It is gratifying also to note that the authors of the new opera were not obsessed with the notion that an American opera must necessarily be local in subject and treatment. The scenes of "Natoma" and "The Sacrifice" were laid in California; as if romance lived there and nowhere else in the United States. Their stories were Spanish, but a supposedly American flavor was given to them by the introduction of a few Indians. Now an opera does not need Indians or cowboys or miners to be American. Neither does it need Indian or negro slave times. But given the Indians, cowboys or miners, there must also be a musical idiom appropriate to them. The patriotic negro minstrel in Signor Puccini's setting of "The Girl of the Golden West" is an absurdity, because he is supposed to make the miners of 1849 homelike by singing an Italian melody to them. They should have heard music suggestive of the songs which they call for in Mr. Belasco's play, not an echo of Neapolitan melody. The opera which Professor Parker and Mr. Hooker have written is a store of inspiration in the time of the Roman occupation of Great Britain; of Druidical fanaticism transforming a noble woman and turning her away from the functions for which nature had designed her. It is a tragedy, its passions universal and elemental, and there should be no hint of time or place in the music which lends its aid to the words and action in giving expression to them. The works in the large and serious forms which Professor Parker has written give promise that he has performed his task in the right spirit.

OUR MERCHANT MARINE.

The Merchant Marine of the United States is a body of men who have just been indicted for bribery will also maintain that they are the victims of a "political conspiracy." The Massachusetts Senate has defeated by one vote the resolution of the lower house ratifying the federal income tax amendment. Both branches defeated a similar resolution last year. Only twenty-nine states have ratified the amendment, and there is little prospect of its securing the necessary thirty-five votes this year. If ratification is finally accomplished, it may be only through the votes of Arizona and New Mexico, not yet definitely admitted into the Union.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

The first thing the Mayor of Bangor, Me., did after the great fire of last Sunday was under control was to order all the saloons closed. That seems commonplace enough until it is recalled that Maine has been a Prohibition state for about forty years. How does it happen, New England newspapers are asking, that there are saloons in Bangor? The Prohibition Journal claims there must be some mistake in the dispatches and that "saloons" must be a misprint for "soda fountains." But "The Portland Press" evidently doesn't look at it that way, and boldly inquires whether "the authorities of Penobscot County claim now that the prohibitory law cannot be enforced in Bangor if they want to enforce it?" The answer is that the authorities can enforce liquor laws when the community wants them enforced.

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It is just now that the Congress has protected our merchant marine in its coastwise service as well as on its interior waterways. As a result of this protection the gross tonnage of our merchant marine vessels exceeds that of the combined merchant marines of Germany, France and Norway by 63,884 tons. This protection has also given us a merchant marine exceeding in gross tonnage the combined marines of ten nations of Continental Europe by nearly one million tons. If Congress will give our merchant marine in the foreign trade only fair protection, as it has done in our domestic trade, there is no doubt that several millions more of gross tons devoted exclusively to deep sea trade would be added to our merchant marine.

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People and Social Incidents.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.
[From The Tribune Bureau.]
Washington, May 4.—The President received word from Ambassador Wilson today that the Foreign Minister of Mexico expected peace would be arranged between the federalists and the insurgents, and, further, that independent negotiations were expected in the states of Morelos and Queretaro.
Following a conference with Mr. Taft, who emphatically denied that the petach dispute had anything to do with Ambassador Wilson's resignation, Representative Leavenworth, who was accompanied by Representative Brantley, said he was satisfied that the reports were untrue and would not press his resolution asking for information as to why Dr. Hill resigned.
President Taft declined the invitation of Senator Watson to attend a fête to be given by the Society of the Philadelphia Medical Association on June 21, having already promised to attend the Yale University commencement on that date. He took under advisement an invitation presented by Senator Townsend to visit the Battle Creek Sanatorium, at which there are one thousand patients, and to include Detroit in his Western trip in September.
Representative Sheppard and Paul Jones, of New York, asked the President to appoint W. H. Arnold, of Texas, as judge of the Western District of Arkansas.
The Argentine Minister introduced Rear Admirals Garcia and Beltheder, of the Argentine navy.
The President, accompanied by Senator Penrose, Major Butt and Dr. Delaney, left Washington at 4 o'clock this afternoon to attend the dinner of the Philadelphia Medical Association at the Hotel Marlborough.
Among the White House callers were Senators Du Pont and Crane, Representatives Rothermel, Bowman, Young of Michigan, Wilson of New York, Hinds, Moore of Tennessee, Porter, Payne, Prouty, Haughen, Kahn, Bulkeley, and Taylor of Ohio, and Miss Susan Pierce and Miss Mary Pierce, granddaughters of President Franklin Pierce, who were introduced by Senator Frederick.
Mrs. Taft, Miss Taft, Miss Keyes, of Cincinnati, and Major Butt occupied a box at the horse show this afternoon.

THE CABINET.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]
Washington, May 4.—The Secretary of State and Mrs. Knox are entertaining for the rest of the week the son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. James Tindall, of Valley Forge, and their nephew and niece, Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Brown, all of whom were with them in their box at the horse show today.
The Secretary of War and Mrs. Dickinson, who are in mourning, presented their box for the horse show to Miss Mary Williams for today, and to Baron de Bode, Russian military attaché, and his sister, Baroness Elizabeth de Bode, for tomorrow. On Saturday the Clintons, Mr. and Mrs. Charles and their family will enjoy the hospitality of the Secretary and Mrs. Dickinson.
The Attorney General and Mrs. Wickes, who had with them at the horse show this afternoon the Netherlands Minister and Mrs. Lott, Miss Mary Hopkins and Alfred Mitchell Innes, British counselor.

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]
Washington, May 4.—Marchesa Cusani Confalonieri and Donna Beatrice Cusani Confalonieri, wife and daughter of the Italian Ambassador, will go to Italy for the summer. The ambassador expects to remain in the country.
The French first secretary and Countess de Peretti de Rocca, who accompanied the sister of the former, Mlle. de Peretti de Rocca, to New York today, to see her off for Europe, will return tomorrow. The French Ambassador and Mme. Jusserand will entertain at luncheon tomorrow Dr. and Mrs. Roaldis, of New Orleans, who will arrive here in the morning. Dr. Roaldis is a blind physician and a countryman of the ambassador.
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IN WASHINGTON SOCIETY.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]
Washington, May 4.—The Vice-President and Mrs. Sherman entertained at dinner tonight the Secretary of Commerce and Labor and Mrs. Nagel, Senator and Mrs. Rayner, Justice and Mrs. Anderson, the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution and Mrs. Charles D. Walcott, Dr. and Mrs. Wilmer, Representative and Mrs. James R. Mann and Rear Admiral and Mrs. Barker. Sir Robert and Lady Hatfield had dinner with them tonight. The Belgian Minister and Countess de Buisseret, the Spanish Minister and Señora de Riano, Alfred Mitchell Innes, the French naval attaché and Viscountess Benoit d'Azay, Mrs. Rogers, Miss Hammond, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson and Brigadier General Crozier. Mrs. Loring and Mrs. Edward Burr had as guests at dinner tonight Major General and Mrs. Leonard Wood, Brigadier General and Mrs. Henry G. Sharpe, Miss Maus, Judge and Mrs. William H. Hunt, Mr. and Mrs. William B. Ridgely, and Captain McCoy.
Mrs. Richard H. Townsend entertained a number of guests at dinner to-night in compliment to Miss Annelia Gerry, of New York, who, with Mrs. Peter Goelet, and Mrs. House guests. A dance followed the dinner.
Invitations were issued today for the marriage of Miss Dorothy Langitt, daughter of Colonel William C. Langitt, U. S. A., and Mrs. Langitt, to Lieutenant Francis Bosworth Wilby, of the engineer corps, at the home of the bride in Georgetown, on the afternoon of May 28. Mrs. Richard Curtis Moore, of Cumberland, will be matron of honor, and Miss Margaret Wilby, of the bridegroom. Miss Margaret Brooke, Miss Eugene Howard, of Fairfield, Conn., and Miss Claire Wilby, of Portland, Ore., will be bridesmaids. Lieutenant D. I. Sultan will be best man, and the list of ushers will include Lieutenant Alexander and Lieutenant Downing, of Washington, and Lieutenant Dobbs, stationed at West Point.
Washington society, with hundreds of distinguished visitors added, was brilliantly represented today at the horse show, and the flower and fringe boxes accommodated many notable parties. Sir Robert and Lady Hatfield entertained the Belgian Minister and Countess de Buisseret and others. Mr. and Mrs. Peter Goelet Gerry had in their box Miss Annelia Gerry, of New York, and others. Miss Mabel Boardman entertained the Postmaster General, Mrs. Winthrop Murray Crane, Senator Lippitt, of Rhode Island, Mr. Catlin, of St. Louis, and Mrs. Charles Dyer Norton. Mrs. E. H. Broughton Wood had in her box Senator and Mrs. McLean, Miss Mary E. Eno, of New York, and Miss Morgan. Mr. and Mrs. Russell, Miss Soymith, of New York, and Thomas Manning, of New York, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Westcott entertained Miss Harrison, Miss Reuben, Reginald Hildesheim, Mr. Turner and Mr. Murray. Mr. and Mrs. J. William Henry entertained and presented the vigor good results even at the eleventh hour could be obtained. J. FREDERIC BAARS, JR., New York, May 3, 1911.

OUR MERCHANT MARINE.

It is just now that the Congress has protected our merchant marine in its coastwise service as well as on its interior waterways. As a result of this protection the gross tonnage of our merchant marine vessels exceeds that of the combined merchant marines of Germany, France and Norway by 63,884 tons. This protection has also given us a merchant marine exceeding in gross tonnage the combined marines of ten nations of Continental Europe by nearly one million tons. If Congress will give our merchant marine in the foreign trade only fair protection, as it has done in our domestic trade, there is no doubt that several millions more of gross tons devoted exclusively to deep sea trade would be added to our merchant marine.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

The first thing the Mayor of Bangor, Me., did after the great fire of last Sunday was under control was to order all the saloons closed. That seems commonplace enough until it is recalled that Maine has been a Prohibition state for about forty years. How does it happen, New England newspapers are asking, that there are saloons in Bangor? The Prohibition Journal claims there must be some mistake in the dispatches and that "saloons" must be a misprint for "soda fountains." But "The Portland Press" evidently doesn't look at it that way, and boldly inquires whether "the authorities of Penobscot County claim now that the prohibitory law cannot be enforced in Bangor if they want to enforce it?" The answer is that the authorities can enforce liquor laws when the community wants them enforced.

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THE KAISER AT KARLSRUHE

German Emperor and Empress Guests of Grand Duke Frederick.